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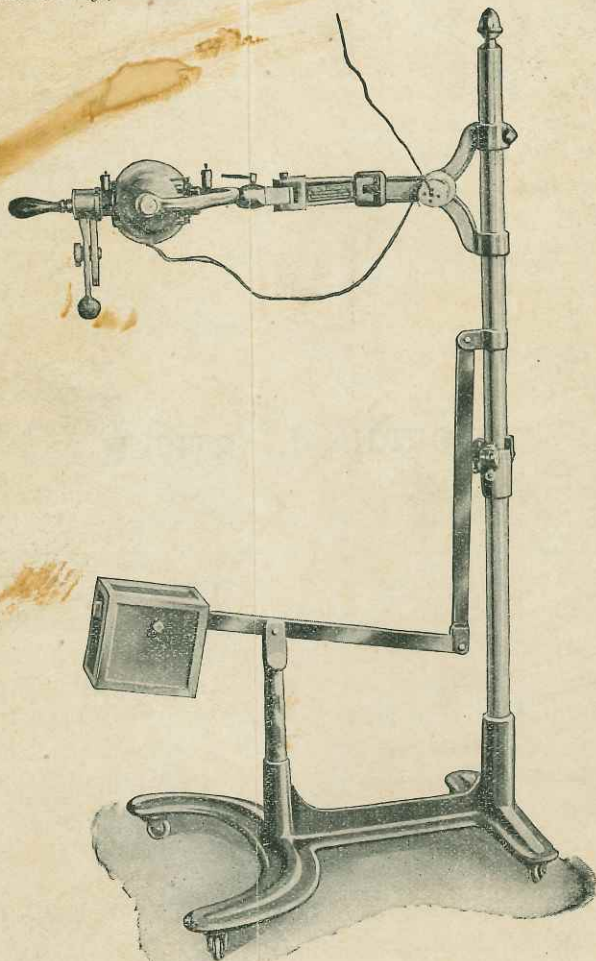
Moriment Cure

Below is a cut of The Chattanooga Vibrator—which was the instrument used in the treatment of these cases.

We send you this reprint with our compliments.

VIBRATOR INSTRUMENT COMPANY
Chattanooga, Tenn.

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THE CHATTANOOGA VIBRATOR

Solely to Physicians

601/101

GOITRE

AN ORIGINAL ARTICLE

REPRINTED FROM
MECHANICAL VIBRATORY STIMULATION,
October, 1904.

GOITRE.

Of this disease, there are two varieties, the simple and the exophthalmic form. The first or simple form rarely amounts to more than a mere enlargement of the thyroid gland, while the other variety is always accompanied with very distressing symptoms, chief of which are: 1st. The extreme nervous phenomena (which often develops into acute mania); 2nd, tachycardia, the pulse rate being from 100 to 150, and 3d, the protrusion of the eye-ball.

The glandular enlargement, as a rule, is greater in the simple than in the exophthalmic form, and in either variety may affect either one or both lobes.

As to the cause of the condition, many theories have been advanced, some authors attributing it to a lesion in the sympathetics or in the central nervous system, others claiming that the disturbance is within the gland itself. However this may be, there is always present a certain amount of sensitiveness along the cervical spine, which may be easily detected by gentle pressure between the transverse processes of the cervical vertebrae. In the simple form this sensitiveness rarely extends below the cervical region, while in the exophthalmic goitre sensitive points are found as low as the 5th or 6th dorsal, and in the latter region there is usually more or less atrophy of the muscles.

During the past, the treatment has been of the tonic form, with digitalis, ergot, etc., for the heart symptoms, and bromides for the nervous conditions. While this treatment has been beneficial in a certain per cent. of cases it has never been entirely satisfactory, and therapeutists have diligently searched for some means of cure. Operations have been tried, but with no success, and the procedure is a very dangerous one, and at present is not often resorted to.

During the later years the trend has been toward physical treat-

ment and electricity, especially the mild galvanic form, and has been productive of some very excellent results, but there has been no uniformity in its effects, so that it has not given entire satisfaction.

The latest method of treatment to be evolved, and the one from which results have been more uniformly successful, is Mechanical Vibratory Stimulation. This form of treatment has proven of special value in both forms of the disease, and if, as a majority of authorities declare, the origin of the disease is in the central, or in the sympathetic nervous system, then it is entirely rational to expect this treatment to be followed by excellent results in the majority of the cases. This should be true, as by no other means can either the sympathetics or the spinal centres be so easily reached or affected than by Mechanical Vibratory Stimulation.

Goitre presents a number of points that make for it a very favorable case for this form of treatment, the most pronounced being the sensitive points along the spine, as it has been found that where one was able to detect sensitive points in any condition the cases yield quickly to treatment by the Vibrator. The reason of this is that the tenderness accurately outlines the spinal centres affected, thus pointing out to the operator his course of procedure, and enabling him to direct his treatment to specific points. The method of treatment by the Vibrator that has proven most efficient is as follows: With the ball attachment, medium stroke and medium pressure, vibrate for fifteen to twenty seconds between the transverse processes from the first cervical down to the lowest point of sensitiveness, going over the sensitive points twice or three times, then use the brush with medium stroke over the gland itself for one to one and a half minutes, and over the cervical and axillary lymphatics for one-half to one minute. After this, the liver and spleen should be stimulated, the ball attachment being better for this purpose.

Under the above treatment simple goitre has been reduced one inch in four treatments, and one case, two and five-eighths inches in seven treatments. It is a common thing to reduce a simple goitre one quarter of an inch at a single application.

In the exophthalmic goitre, the nervous symptoms yield quickly, the patients sleeping better and feeling more comfortable from the very first, and the pulse rate being reduced thirty-five to forty beats per minute.

